

## Message Text

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45

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SCA-01 EB-11 FAA-00 CAB-09

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PPT-02 L-03 INRE-00

SSO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 USIE-00 RSR-01 /083 W

----- 017974

O R 061655Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8354

INFO AMCONSUL ANTWERP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 4520

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ETRN, BE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AMERICAN STRANDEES IN BELGIUM

1. APPROXIMATELY 120 AMERICAN CITIZENS CURRENTLY STRANDED IN OSTENDE, BELGIUM SINCE LATE EVENING AUGUST 5. STRANDEES ARE REMAINING FROM GROUP OF 136 BOOKED TO RETURN TO LOS ANGELES ON BELGIAN CHARTER COMPANY POMAIR FLIGHT THAT EVENING. HOWEVER POMAIR OFFICIALS DECIDED THAT ONLY 16 OUT OF FULL GROUP HAD LEGITIMATE VOUCHERS/TICKETS. THEREFORE, POMAIR CANCELLED THEIR FLIGHT AND ARRANGED REGULAR SCHEDULED TICKETS FOR 16 LEGITIMATE VOUCHERS.

2. POMAIR POSITION IS AS FOLLOWS: PASSENGERS ARE NOT MEMBERS OF LEGAL ROUND TRIP CHARTER GROUP. THEY ARE IN POSSESSION OF ONE WAY VOUCHERS ISSUED CONTRARY TO CAB CHARTER REGULATIONS. VOUCHERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED BY EUROPEAN TRAVEL AGENTS AND POMAIR HAS NOT BEEN PAID FOR THEM.

3. POMAIR ARRANGED HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS EVENING AUGUST 5 AND CONTEMPLATED APPROACHING CAB THROUGH THEIR WASHINGTON ATTORNEY FOR SPECIAL PERMISSION FLY THIS GROUP AS STRANDEES. HOWEVER POMAIR NO LONGER PREPARED TAKE ANY RESPONSIBILITY WHATSOEVER EXCEPT TO ASSIST STRANDEES IN OBTAINING REFUNDS. EMBASSY AND CONGEN HAVE BEEN IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH POMAIR AND WITH  
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STRANDEES. SITUATION APPEARS TO BE DETERIORATING. (TV CAMERA-

MEN ON JOB AND ONE STRANDEE THREATENING TO CLOSE DOWN AIRPORT IF  
USG DOES NOT DO SOMETHING QUICKLY.)

4. EMBOFFS LEAVING BY CAR FOR OSTENDE AIRPORT. REQUEST  
DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE IMMEDIATELY AS TO POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION,  
SPECIFICALLY PERMISSION PAA AND OTHERS TO CARRY STRANDEES AT  
SPECIAL RATES. (PAA BRUSSELS REPORTS ITS FLIGHT RUNNING OVER 90  
PERCENT CAPACITY. ONE VISIBILITY MIGHT BE TO SOMEHOW GET STRANDEES  
TO LONDON TO PICK UP MORE NUMEROUS PAA AND TWA FLIGHTS.).  
BOOCHEVER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR TRANSPORTATION, PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BRUSSE04520  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR: AMERICAN STRANDEES IN BELGIUM  
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**To:** STATE  
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